

PEOPLE

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MOVE

Human Resources reports the following personnel changes as of February 13, 1999:

Key Management Assignments

Bill Parsons was named director, Center Operations.
Randy Gish was named director, Business Management.
Greg Hayes was named director of Human Resources.
Dave Lengyel was selected as deputy to the assistant to the director for Human Space Flight, Russia.
Doug Blanchard was named deputy director, Public Affairs.
Curt Brown was named acting deputy director, Flight Crew Operations.
Joel Walker was named deputy director, Center Operations.
Susan Braymer was named deputy director of Human Resources.
Bobbie Gail Swan was selected as technical assistant to the director, Flight Crew Operations.

Promotions

Charles Bell was selected as a contracting officer in the Institutional Business Management Office in the Business Management Directorate.
Ann Bronson was selected as a contract specialist in the Space and Life Sciences Business Management Office in the Business Management Directorate.
Judy Flanagan was selected as a program analyst in the Resource Control and Reimbursables Branch in the Office of the Chief Financial Officer.
Jan Read was selected as a program analyst in the Financial Management Division in the Office of the Chief Financial Officer.
Rose Garza was selected as the secretary for the deputy program manager for technical development in the International Space Station Program Office.

Leah Garcia was selected as the secretary in the EVA, Robotics, and Crew Systems Operations Division, in the Mission Operations Directorate.
Melissa Martinez was selected as the secretary in the Information Products and Services Division in the Information Systems Directorate.
Angela Pollard was selected as the secretary in the Information Technology Division in the Information Systems Directorate.

Reassignments Between Directorates

Andrea Falls moves from the International Space Station Program Office to the Business Management Directorate.
Jim Thornton moves from the EVA Project Office to the Mission Operations Directorate.
Brenda Ward moves from the International Space Station Program Office to the Engineering Directorate.
Pete Smith moves from the International Space Station Program Office to the Office of the Chief Financial Officer.
Liz Fountain moves from the Engineering Directorate to the Space Shuttle Program Office.
Jennifer Rasnic moves from the Information Systems Directorate to the Space Shuttle Program Office.
Jerry Van Horn moves from the Business Management Directorate to the Space Shuttle Program Office.
Scott Gahring moves from the Mission Operations Directorate to the Safety, Reliability, and Quality Assurance Office.
Eulalio Nandin moves from the Mission Operations Directorate to the International Space Station Program Office.
Tony Ornelas moves from the Engineering Directorate to the International Space Station Program Office.
Dwight Auzenne moves from the Safety, Reliability, and Quality Assurance Office to the Space Operations Management Office.
Jon Hall moves from the Office of the Chief Financial Officer to the EVA Program Office.

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March 12

Astronomers meet: The JSC Astronomical Society will meet at 7:30 p.m. March 12 at the Center for Advanced Space Studies, 3600 Bay Area Blvd. For details, call Chuck Shaw at x35416.

March 17

Scuba club meets: The Lunarfans will meet at 7:30 p.m. March 17. For details, call Mike Manering at x32618.
Astronomy seminar: The JSC Astronomy Seminar will meet at noon March 17, 24 and 31 and April 7 in Bldg. 31, Rm. 248A. For more information, call Al Jackson at x35037.
Spaceland Toastmasters meet: The Spaceland Toastmasters will meet at 7 a.m. March 17, 24 and 31 and April 7 at the House of Prayer Lutheran Church. For more information, call George Salazar at x30162.
Communicators meet: The Clear Lake Communicators, a Toastmasters club, will meet at 11:30 a.m. March 17, 24 and 31

and April 7 at Lockheed Martin, 555 Forge River Rd. For details, call Allen Prescott at 282-3281 or Mark Caronna at 282-4306.
Spaceteam Toastmasters meet: The Spaceteam Toastmasters will meet at 11:30 a.m. March 17, 24 and 31 and April 7 at United Space Alliance, 600 Gemini. For details, call Patricia Blackwell at (281) 282-4302 or Brian Collins at x35190.

March 18

Directors meet: The Space Family Education board of directors will meet at 11:30 a.m. March 18 in Bldg. 45, Rm. 712D. For details on this open meeting, call Gretchen Thomas at x37664.

March 22

Alzheimer's support group meets: The Clear lake Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group will meet from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. March 22 in the first floor conference room in St. John Hospital, West Building, in Nassau Bay. For details, call Nancy Malley (281-480-8917) or John Gouveia (281-280-8517).

NASA BRIEFS

HEART ASSIST PUMP EFFECTIVE IN EUROPEAN TRIALS

A miniaturized ventricular-assist pump, developed for heart patients using NASA technology, has been successfully implanted into seven people in European clinical trials. More than 20 additional implants are expected by mid-1999.

The tiny device has functioned normally and to specification, said Dallas Anderson, president and CEO of MicroMed Technology Inc. of Houston, Tex., the company to which NASA granted exclusive rights for the pump. Specific medical information on the individual patients is confidential. But one person has undergone a successful heart transplant after 75 days with the device implanted in his chest. That, Anderson said, demonstrates the pump's capability to keep a patient alive until a donor heart becomes available.

MARS GLOBAL SURVEYOR BEGINS FULL MAPPING

NASA's Mars Global Surveyor spacecraft began its primary mapping mission, following a successful firing of its main engine on February 19 to fine-tune its path around the red planet into a nearly circular, Sun-synchronous orbit. The final "transfer to mapping orbit" burn lowered Global Surveyor's closest approach over Mars from 253 miles to approximately 229 miles.

The mapping orbit was designed so that Surveyor passes over a given part of Mars at the same local time each orbit. At about 2 p.m. local Mars time, the spacecraft will cross the equator flying northward on the daytime side and about 2 a.m., it will cross the equator flying southward on the nighttime side. This timing is essential for effective interpretation of atmospheric and surface measurements, because it allows scientists to separate local daily variations from longer-term seasonal and annual trends.

ARTIFICIAL MUSCLES TO BE USED ON ROBOTIC SPACE EXPLORERS

Artificial muscles that should give space robots animal-like flexibility and manipulation ability will get their first test on a small NASA rover destined to explore an asteroid.

Under development by Dr. Yoseph Bar-Cohen of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, Calif., the artificial muscles are based on a simple, lightweight strip of highly flexible plastic that bends and functions similarly to human fingers when electrical voltage is applied to it.

Bar-Cohen and a small team of scientists and engineers are working to turn these strips into grippers and strings which can grab and lift loads, among many other potential uses.

GILRUTH CENTER NEWS

<http://www4.jsc.nasa.gov/ah/exceaa/Gilruth/Gilruth.htm>

Hours: The Gilruth Center is open from 6:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 6:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday, and 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday. Contact the Gilruth Center at 281-483-3345.
Sign up policy: Sign up in person at the Gilruth Center and show a yellow Gilruth or weight room badge. Classes tend to fill up two weeks in advance. Payment must be made in full, in exact change or by check, at the time of registration. No registration will be taken by telephone. For additional information, call x33345.
Gilruth badges: Required for use of the Gilruth Center. Employees, spouses, eligible dependents, NASA retirees and spouses may apply for photo identification badges from 7:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays. Cost is \$10. Dependents must be between 16 and 23 years old.
Nutrition intervention program: Six-week program includes lectures, a private consultation with the dietitian and

blood analysis to chart your progress. For additional information, call Tammie Shaw at x32980.
Defensive driving: One-day course is offered once a month at the Gilruth Center. Pre-registration required. Cost is \$25. Call for next available class.
Stamp club: Meets every second and fourth Monday at 7 p.m. in Rm. 216.
Weight safety: Required course for employees wishing to use the Gilruth weight room. Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$5. Annual weight room use fee is \$90. The cost for additional family members is \$50.
Exercise: Low-impact class meets from 5:15-6:15 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Cost is \$24 for eight weeks.
Step/bench aerobics: Cardiovascular workout. Classes meet from 5:15-6:15 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Cost is \$32 for eight weeks. For additional information, call Kristen Taragzewski, instructor, at x36891.

Yoga: Stretching class of low-impact exercises designed for people of all ages and abilities in a Westernized format. Meets Thursdays 5-6 p.m. Cost is \$32 for eight weeks. Call Darrell Matula at x38520 for additional information.
Ballroom dancing: Classes meet from 7-8:15 p.m. Thursdays for beginner advanced classes and from 8:15-9:30 p.m. for beginner-intermediate and intermediate students. Cost is \$60 per couple.
Country and western dancing: Beginner class meets 7-8:30 p.m. Monday. Advanced class (must know basic steps to all dances) meets 8:30-10 p.m. Monday. Cost is \$20 per couple.
Fitness program: Health-related fitness program includes a medical screening examination and a 12-week individually prescribed exercise program. For additional information, call Larry Wier at x30301.